

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT A 01486 300137Z

62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 RSR-01 /075 W

----- 090595

O R 300100Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6911

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO COMNAVBASE GTMO BAY CUBA

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 1486

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, HA

SUBJ: NEW FIRE AT NATIONAL PALACE

1. AT 1840 HOURS LOCAL AUGUST 29 I OBSERVED FROM MY RESIDENCE SMOKE EMANATING FROM AREA BEHIND NATIONAL PALACE. SHORTLY THERE-AFTER SIRENS SOUNDED. BY ABOUT 1915 LOCAL RADIO BROADCASTS ADVISED MILITARY AND MILITIA PERSONNEL WHO WERE CONVERGING ON PALACE TO RETURN TO QUARTERS.

2. EMBASSY PERSONNEL ARRIVING AT EMBASSY BETWEEN 1900 AND 1930 FOUND CROWDS WHICH HAD EARLIER CONVERGED ON PALACE DRIVING AWAY AND NO SPECIAL SECURITY PRECAUTIONS OTHER THAN GROUP OF CIVILIANS CONGREGATED IN FRONT OF POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

3. GENERALS HILAIRE, BRETON CLAUDE, COLONEL THOMAS AND MAJOR PROSPER AVRIL, WHOM DATT TRIED TO CONTACT WERE UNAVAILABLE BECAUSE "IN CONFERENCE WITH THE PRESIDENT." WE THEN DIALED
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PALACE NUMBER AND I SUCCEEDED IN TALKING TO FOREIGN MINISTER

ADRIEN RAYMOND. HE TOLD ME THERE HAD BEEN A FIRE AND IT WAS UNDER CONTROL. I ASKED IF I COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE AND HE SAID HE WOULD PASS MY MESSAGE ON TO THE PRESIDENT WHO WAS "WORKING" AND THEY WOULD CALL ME BACK IF NECESSARY. RAYMOND WAS OBVIOUSLY PREOCCUPIED AND UNCOMMUNICATIVE.

4. WE DO NOT YET KNOW EXACTLY WHAT HAS HAPPENED BUT WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO FIND OUT.

CORCORAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS CORCORAN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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